

**CH-94**  
**H.C. Rees House**  
**Pisgah**  
**Private**

**1917**  
**circa 1930**

First erected in 1917, the H.C. Rees House is an accretive structure that has undergone substantial extensions over the years. The house consists of two parts, the first built in 1917 and the second, circa 1930. The house is of frame construction with an "L"-shaped footprint. Located on the west side of Mason Springs Road approximately two-tenths of a mile north of Pisgah, the house occupies a 7-acre lot which includes one historic and one non-historic outbuilding.

The Rees House's accretive architecture demonstrates the evolving character of many rural dwellings built during the early 20th century in Charles County. The house was erected by Harry C. Rees on his family's property in 1917, and substantially enlarged around 1930. It has remained in the Rees family ever since, and is still occupied by the builder's daughter. The building displays diluted Vernacular Victorian features, but has been significantly altered over the years.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. CH-94

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1. Name of Property

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historic name Harry C. Rees House

common/other name \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Location

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street & number 6145 Mason Springs Road not for publication \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Mason Springs vicinity X state Maryland code MD  
county Charles code 017 zip code 20640

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

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4. National Park Service Certification N/A

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5. Classification

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Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

| Contributing | Noncontributing |            |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| <u>2</u>     | <u>1</u>        | buildings  |
| <u>0</u>     | <u>0</u>        | sites      |
| <u>0</u>     | <u>0</u>        | structures |
| <u>0</u>     | <u>0</u>        | objects    |
| <u>2</u>     | <u>1</u>        | Total      |

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Listing \_\_\_\_\_  
No X

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-94

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Vernacular Victorian  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation pier: poured concrete  
roof cross gable: pressed metal sheets  
walls frame: vinyl siding  
other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-94

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or a grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-94

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance 1917 - circa 1930  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates 1917  
circa 1930  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation Undefined  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Brown, Jack D., et al. *Charles County, Maryland, A History*. Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, La Plata, Maryland.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown. *The History of Charles County, Maryland*. La Plata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property 6.9 acres

**Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)**

The property at 6145 Masons Spring Road is designated as Parcel 96 on Map 30, Grid 11 on the Charles County Property Map.

**Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)**

The H.C. Rees House has been associated with Parcel 96, Map 30 since its original construction in 1917.

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11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Kathryn Gettings Smith, Architectural Historian  
 organization Charles County Planning Dept. date Dec. 3, 1998  
 street & number P.O. Box B telephone 301-645-0689  
 city or town La Plata state MD zip code 20646

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12. Property Owner

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name Mattie R. Kalinosky  
 street & number P.O. Box 471 telephone 301-743-3845  
 city or town Marbury state MD zip code 20658

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MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-94

Section 7 Page 1

Harry C. Rees House  
name of property  
Charles County, Maryland  
county and state

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The H.C. Rees House is an accretive structure that has undergone substantial extensions over the years. The house consists of two parts, the first built in 1917 and the second, circa 1930. The house is of frame construction with an "L"-shaped footprint. Located on the west side of Mason Springs Road approximately two-tenths of a mile north of Pisgah, the house occupies a 7-acre lot which includes one historic and one non-historic outbuilding.

Set atop a gradual rise, back approximately 200 yards from Mason Springs Road to the east, the house occupies a mostly open site with scattered mature trees. The nearly 7-acre lot is bordered on the south and west by forest, and on the north and east by open land. The house is approached by a long gravel driveway and is fronted by a low stone retaining wall where the land slopes down toward the main road.

The 2-story frame house displays an L-shaped form and stands on a combination, brick and poured concrete pier foundation. The roof, which is covered with its original pressed metal sheets, terminates in open eaves. An original interior brick chimney has been removed and two exterior stove flues, one brick and one concrete block, have been added to the south elevation. The house is clad in vinyl siding, and a 1-story, 3-bay hipped and gable-roof porch extends across the interior corner of the "L"-shape of the house.

The earliest portion of the house contains a 2-story, front gable section set on a brick pier foundation and located at the south side of the existing house. As built in 1917, this portion had two rooms on the first floor and two above. A single entry was positioned on the north end of the east gable front of the house. This has been enclosed and replaced by a single window centered on the first story.

Built circa 1930, the second section of the house added two rooms, one on the first floor and one on the second. Standing on a poured concrete pier foundation, this addition, made to the north side of the original house, created the present "L" shape of the house. The addition also included a 1-story, 2-bay half-hipped roof porch connecting the old and new parts of the house. This porch is supported by turned wood posts of Victorian design. It was extended an additional bay to the north around the time of World War II.

For the most part the original windows remain on the second story of both sections of the house. However, most of the first story

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Section 7 Page 2

Harry C. Rees House  
name of property  
Charles County, Maryland  
county and state

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window sash has been replaced by modern 2/2 wood sash, and the original wood casings are obscured by vinyl siding and aluminum coverings. The east elevation, or facade, of the building displays one 2/2 wood frame window of modern design on the front gable end at the first story, and a combination "picture" window consisting of two narrow 2/2 modern windows flanking a 1-light fixed window on the circa-1930 addition. A single-leaf multi-light wood door provides the only entrance to the front of the house, and is located in the second bay from the north. At the second story, three window openings containing original 2/2 sash pierce the east elevation. One such window is located in the front gable end of the original house, while the other two occupy a wide shed dormer that breaks the roof line of the circa-1930 addition.

The only windows along the north elevation are two sliding metal 1-light windows located on the side of the enclosed rear porch. At the rear, this former porch extends across the full width of the house, and was broken into two sections when it was enclosed. The northern section consists of a partially enclosed "sun-porch" lighted by three metal-and-glass jalousie windows. The southern, and larger portion of the enclosed rear porch has been fully enclosed and clad in vinyl siding. One single-leaf multi-light wood door and one 3/1 wood sash window open into this portion. On the second story, the rear elevation is pierced by one original 4-light wood casement window located in the circa-1930 addition, and two original 2/2 windows at the rear gable end of the original dwelling.

The south elevation is composed of the side elevation of the original house and the south side of the enclosed porch. This wall is pierced by four bays. A single 3/1 sash window opens into the enclosed porch, and a double window composed of two original 2/2 sash windows, and two 2/2 modern replacement windows pierce the side wall of the original house. At the second story, one original 4-light wood casement window and one original 2/2 sash window pierce the south wall.

Significant alterations that have been made to the house include the infill of the pier foundations with concrete block, the excavation of a basement below the original house, the recladding of the exterior, and the enclosure of the rear porch.



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Section 7 Page 3

Harry C. Rees House  
name of property  
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OUTBUILDINGS

Two outbuildings occupy the property, one small frame shed, originally a late-19th century smokehouse, and one shed-roofed frame shed of late 20th century date. The smaller shed was originally built as a smokehouse and was associated with a late-19th century farm located a short distance north of the H.C. Rees house. When the H.C. Rees house was built, the smokehouse was moved from its original location, attached to the rear of the house and used as a kitchen. Later, when the addition was made, the kitchen moved to the first floor room of the new section, and the smokehouse was removed to its present site for use as a shed. The building is a 1-story front gable frame structure set on brick piers and clad with wood weatherboard. A 1-story frame shed addition extends off the rear and a shed roof carport has been appended to its north side. The roof is covered with corrugated metal sheeting.

The modern shed stands directly west of the house and consists of a 1-story frame structure clad in verticalboard and set on a continuous poured concrete foundation. The shed roof is covered in corrugated metal sheets. This shed appears to date to the latter half of the 20th century, perhaps the 1960s or 1970s.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-94

Section 8 Page 1

Harry C. Rees House  
name of property  
Charles County, Maryland  
county and state

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The H.C. Rees House's accretive architecture demonstrates the evolving character of many rural dwellings built during the early 20th century. The house was erected by Harry C. Rees on his family's property in 1917, and substantially enlarged around 1930. It has remained in the Rees family ever since, and is still occupied by the builder's daughter. The building displays diluted Vernacular Victorian features, and has been significantly altered over the years.

In the rural areas of Charles County it was common during the late 19th and early 20th century for families to initially build small houses and later add to them as the means became available and their families grew. Thus, numerous Charles County dwellings of the late 19th and early 20th century display features of two or more periods of construction. The H.C. Rees House reveals very little stylistic character, but can be generally described as a Vernacular Victorian type with its assymetrical, "L"-shaped design and prominent front porch.

The property upon which the H.C. Rees house was constructed was acquired by Fanny A. Rees of Pisgah in 1895 from Merrit L. & Mary E. Benedict and Ellen Hall for \$250. The property was then described as a portion of "Bachelor's Park," consisting of 120.25 acres. Fanny Rees continued to own the property during the period that Harry Clinton Rees was constructing his house. She transferred this same property to William A. Rees in 1927. Not until 1958 did William Rees and his wife Dollie deed to Harry C. Rees the 6.9 acres of the present property. In 1978, Harry Rees died and passed his land to his wife, Elizabeth M. Rees who willed the land to her daughter, Mattie Rees Kalinosky who is the current owner.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
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Harry C. Rees House  
name of property  
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=====

**HISTORIC CONTEXT:**

**Geographic Organization:** Western Shore

**Chronological/Development Period (s):**

Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-  
1930  
Modern Period, 1930-present

**Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):**

ARCHITECTURE

**RESOURCE TYPE(S)**

**Category:** Building

**Historic Environment:** Rural

**Historic Function (s):** DOMESTIC/Single dwelling

**Known Design Source:** Unknown

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-94

Harry C. Rees House  
name of property  
Charles County, Maryland  
county and state

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**Chain of Title:**

January 6, 1885: Edmund & Mary S. Milstead to Merrit  
L Benedict & Henry F. Hall  
Charles County Land Records  
Liber GS 7 Folio 592

December 3, 1895: Merrit L. & Mary E. Benedict, Kenny  
F. & Ellen Hall of New York State to  
Fanny A. Rees of Pispah, MD  
\$250  
120.25 acres, Part of "Bachelor's  
Park"  
Charles County Land Records  
Liber JST 7 Folio 662

June 30, 1927: Fanny A. Rees to William A. Rees  
120.25 acres, Part of "Bachelor's  
Park"  
Charles County Land Records  
Liber WMA 47 Folio 232

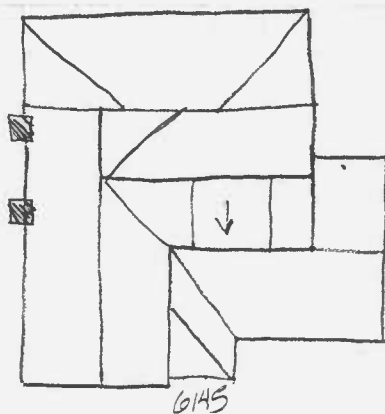
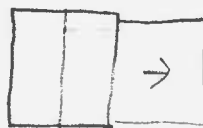
January 25, 1958: William A. & Dollie S. Rees and  
George C. & Dorothea Rees to Harry  
C. & Elizabeth M. Rees  
6.9 acres  
Charles County Land Records  
Liber 134 Folio 195

November 8, 1979: Mattie R. Kalinosky, Personal  
representative of the estate of  
Elizabeth M. Rees to Mattie R.  
Kalinosky  
6.9 acres, NW side of state road 425  
from Pispah to Masons Spring  
Elizabeth Rees died November 3,  
1978: Estate No. 5395  
Part of a larger tract acquired by  
William A. Rees  
Charles County Land Records  
Liber 685 Folio 274

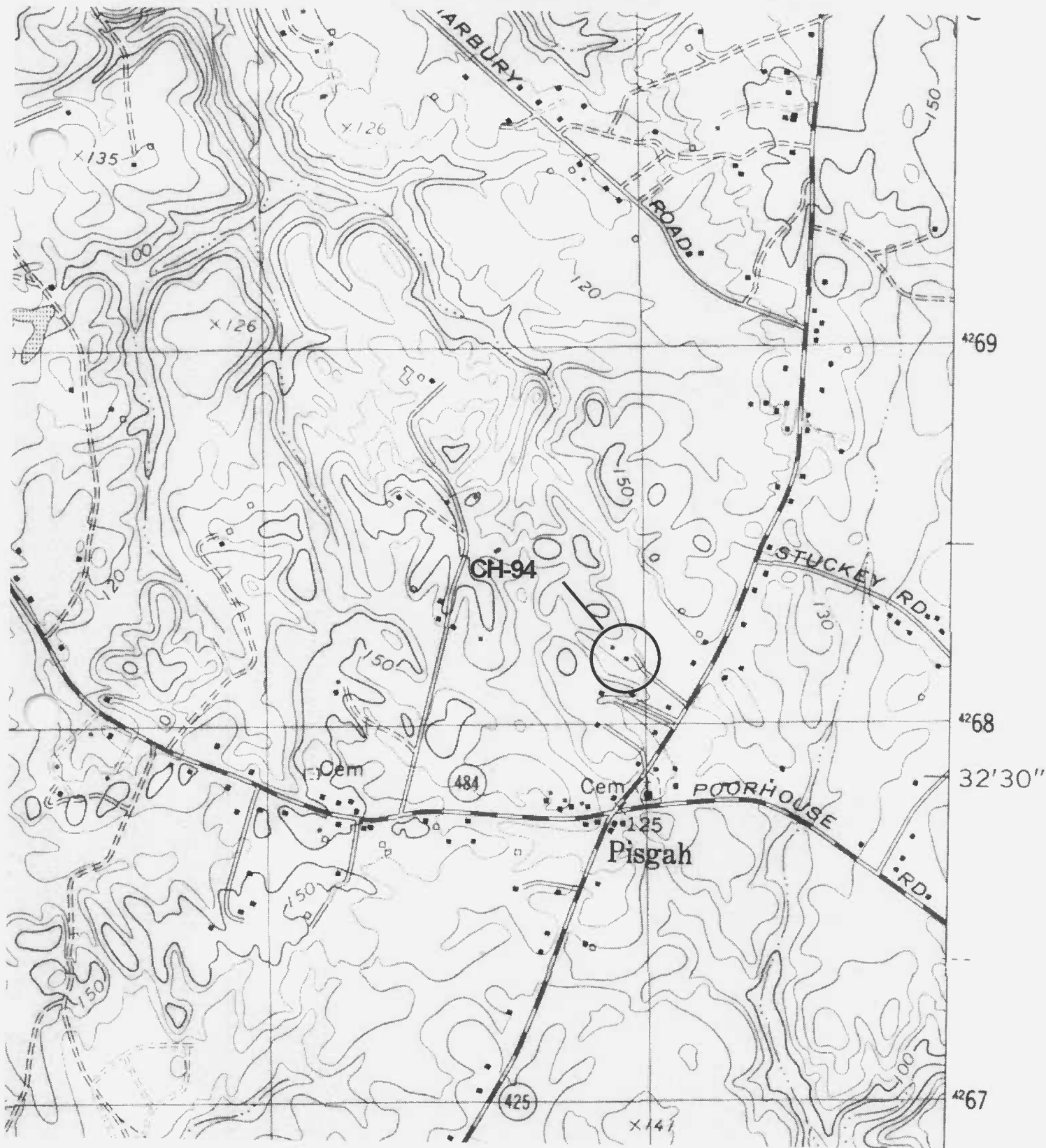
RESOURCE SKETCH MAP  
10/98



HARRY C. REES HOUSE/CH-94  
6145 MASON SPRINGS RD.  
CHARLES COUNTY, MD  
PISGAH VIC.



Masons Spring Rd.



H.C. Rees House  
Charles County, MD

INDIAN HEAD, MD QUAD

CH-94



CH-94

HARRY C. REES HOUSE  
CHARLES COUNTY, MD  
K.G. SMITH

10/98

MARYLAND SHPO

LOOKING SW

1 OF 3





CH-94

HARRY C. REES HOUSE

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

K.G. SMITH

10/98

MARYLAND SHPO

LOOKING NE

2 OF 3



CH-94

HARRY C. REES HOUSE

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

K.G. SMITH

10/98

MARYLAND SHPO

LOOKING NW

3 OF 3